New passenger shipping service linking Gulf region and India

2377. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new passenger shipping service linking the Gulf region and India is shortly to be launched;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) whether the Non-Resident Indians in Gulf countries especially those from Kerala have accused airlines of charging more on the sector; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Representations have been received from Non Resident Indians in Gulf countries including those from Kerala. The international airfares are fixed by International Air Transport Association in Tariff Coordination Conference attended by all Airlines, unanimously. However, different Airlines may file fares less than IATA approved fares with DGCA. These fares are generally for a limited fixed period during lean season. Indian Airlines and Air India have also made applications for this purpose with DGCA.

Handing over the surplus land of KPT to Gujarat State

2378. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of actual proposal for handing over the surplus land of Kandla Port Trust to the Gujarat State;

(b) how much land is to be handed over to the State Government;

(c) the details of action taken by Government for handing over the possession of surplus land of the Kandla Port Trust to the State; and

(d) by when the possession of land in question would be handed over to the State?